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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1779.

To the INHABITANTS of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

FRIENDS and COUNTRYMEN,

THE preſent ſituation of public affairs demands your moſt ſerious attention, and particularly the great and encreaſing depreciation of your currency requires the immediate, ſtrenuous, and united efforts of all true friends to their country, for preventing an extenſion of the miſchiefs that have already flowed from that ſource.

America, without arms, ammunition, diſcipline, revenue, government, or ally, almoſt totally ſtript of commerce, and in the weakneſs of youth, as it were with a "ſtaff and a ſling" only, dared "in the name of the Lord of hoſts" to engage a gigantic adverſary, prepared at all points, boaſting of his ſtrength, and of whom even mighty warriors "were greatly afraid."

For defraying the expences of this uncommon war, your repreſentatives in Congreſs were obliged to emit paper money; an expedient that you knew to have been before generally and ſucceſsfully practiſed on this continent.

They were very ſenſible of the inconveniences with which too frequent emiſſions would be attended, and endeavoured to avoid them. For this purpoſe they eſtabliſhed loan offices ſo early as in October 1776, and have from that time to this repeatedly and earneſtly ſolicited you to lend them money on the faith of the United States. The ſums received on loan have nevertheleſs proved inadequate to the public exigencies. Our enemies proſecuting the war by ſea and land with implacable fury and with ſome ſucceſs, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midſt of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the continued neceſſity of new emiſſions.

But to this cauſe alone we do not impute the evil before mentioned. We have too much reaſon to believe it has been in part owing to the artifices of men, who have haſtened to enrich themſelves by monopolizing the neceſſaries of life, and to the miſconduct of inferior officers employed in the public ſervice.

The variety and importance of the buſineſs entruſted to your Delegates, and their conſtant attendance in Congreſs, neceſſarily diſables them from inveſtigating diſorders of this kind. Juſtly apprehenſive of them, they by their ſeveral reſolutions of the 22d of November and 20th of December 1777, and of the 3d and 9th of February 1778, recommended to the Legiſlative and Executive Powers of theſe States a due attention to theſe intereſting affairs. How far thoſe recommendations have been complied with we will not undertake to determine; but we hold ourſelves bound in duty to you to declare, that we are not convinced there has been as much diligence uſed in detecting and reforming abuſes as there has been in committing or complaining of them.

With regard to monopolizers, it is our opinion that taxes judiciouſly laid on ſuch articles as become the objects of engroſſers, and thoſe frequently collected, would operate againſt the pernicious tendency of ſuch practices.

As to inferior officers employed in the public ſervice, we ANXIOUSLY deſire to call your moſt vigilant attention to their conduct with reſpect to every ſpecies of miſbehaviour, whether proceeding from ignorance, negligence or fraud, and to the making of laws for inflicting examplary puniſhments on all offenders of this kind.

We are ſorry to hear that ſome perſons are ſo ſlightly informed of their own intereſts, as to ſuppoſe that it is advantageous to them to ſell the produce of their farms at enormous prices, when a little reflection might convince them that it is injurious to thoſe intereſts and the general welfare. If they expect thereby to purchaſe imported goods cheaper, they will be egregiouſly diſappointed; for the merchants, who know they cannot obtain returns in gold, ſilver or bills of exchange, but that their veſſels, if loaded here at all, muſt be loaded with produce, will raiſe the price of what they have to ſell, in proportion to the price of what they have to buy; and conſequently the landholder can purchaſe no more foreign goods for the ſame quantity of his produce than he could before.

The evil, however, does not ſtop at this point. The land-holder by acting on this miſtaken calculation is only labouring to accumulate an immenſe debt, by encreaſing the public expences, for the payment of which his eſtate is engaged, and to embarraſs every meaſure adopted for vindicating his liberty and ſecuring his proſperity.

As the harveſts of this year, which by the divine goodneſs promiſe to be plentiful, will ſoon be gathered, and ſome new meaſures relating to your foreign concerns, with ſome arrangements relating to your domeſtic, are now under conſideration, from which beneficial effects are expected, we entertain hopes that your affairs will acquire a much greater degree of regularity and energy than they have hitherto had.

But we ſhould be highly criminal if we did not plainly tell you that thoſe hopes are not founded wholly upon our own proceedings. Theſe muſt be ſupported by your virtue, your wiſdom, and your diligence. From the advantage of thoſe ſeats in the National Council with which you have honoured us, we have a pleaſing proſpect of many bleſſings approaching this our native land. It is your patriotiſm muſt introduce and fix them here.

In vain will it be for your Delegates to form plans of œconomy, to ſtrive to ſtop a continuation of emiſſions by taxation or loan, if you do not zealouſly co-operate with them in promoting their deſigns, and uſe your utmoſt induſtry to prevent the waſte of money in the expenditure, which your reſpective ſituations in the ſeveral places where it is expended may enable you to do. A diſcharge of this duty, and a compliance with recommendations for ſupplying money, might enable Congreſs to give ſpeedy aſſurances to the public that no more emiſſions ſhall take place, and thereby cloſe that ſource of depreciation.

Your governments being now eſtabliſhed, and your ability to contend with your invaders aſcertained, we have on the moſt mature deliberation judged it indiſpenſably neceſſary to call upon you for forty-five millions of dollars, in addition to the fifteen millions required by a reſolution of Congreſs of the 2d of January laſt, to be paid into the Continental Treaſury before the firſt day of January next, in the ſame proportion, as to the quotas of the ſeveral States, with that for the ſaid fifteen millions.

It appeared proper to us to fix the firſt day of next January for the payment of the whole; but as it is probable that ſome States, if not all, will raiſe part of the ſums by inſtalments or otherwiſe before that time, we recommend in the ſtrongeſt manner the paying as much as can be collected as ſoon as poſſible into the Continental Treaſury.

Though it is manifeſt that moderate taxation in times of peace will recover the credit of your currency, yet the encouragement which your enemies derive from its depreciation, and the preſent exigencies, demand great and ſpeedy exertions.

We are perſuaded you will uſe all poſſible care to make the promotion of the general welfare interfere as little as may be with the eaſe and comfort of individuals; but tho' the raiſing theſe ſums ſhould preſs heavily on ſome of our conſtituents, yet the obligations we feel to your venerable clergy, the truly helpleſs widows and orphans, your moſt gallant, generous, meritorious officers and ſoldiers, the public faith and the common weal, ſo irreſiſtably urge us to attempt the appreciation of your currency, that we cannot withhold obedience to thoſe authoritative ſenſations.

On this ſubject we will only add, that as the rules of juſtice are moſt pleaſing to our infinitely good and gracious Creator, and an adherence to them moſt likely to obtain his favour, ſo they will ever be found to be the beſt and ſafeſt maxims of human policy.

To our conſtituents we ſubmit the propriety and purity of our intentions, well knowing they will not forget, that we lay no burthens upon them, but thoſe in which we participate with them—a happy ſympathy, that pervades ſocieties formed on the baſis of equal liberty. Many cares, many labours, and may we not add, reproaches—are peculiar to us. Theſe are the emoluments of our unſolicited ſtations; and with theſe we are content, if YOU approve our conduct. If you do not, we ſhall return to our private condition with no other regret, than that which will ariſe from our not having ſerved you as acceptably and eſſentially as we wiſhed and ſtrove to do, though as chearfully and faithfully as we could.

Think not we deſpair of the Commonwealth, or endeavour to ſhrink from oppoſing difficulties. No. Your cauſe is too good, your objects too ſacred, to be relinquiſhed. We tell you truths, becauſe you are freemen who can bear to hear them and may profit by them; and when they reach your enemies, we fear not the conſequences, becauſe we are not ignorant of their reſources or our own. Let your good ſenſe decide upon the compariſon. Let even their prejudiced underſtandings decide upon it, and you need not be apprehenſive of the determination.

Whatever ſuppoſed advantages from plans of rapine, projects of blood, or dreams of domination, may heretofore have amuſed their inflamed fancies, the conduct of one monarch, the friend and protector of the rights of mankind, has turned the ſcale ſo much againſt them, that their viſionary ſchemes vaniſh as the unwholeſome vapours of night before the healthful influences of the ſun.

An Alliance has been formed between his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and theſe States, on the baſis of the moſt perfect equality, for the direct end of maintaining effectually their Liberty, Sovereignty and Independence, abſolute and unlimited, as well in matters of government as of commerce. The conduct of our good and great Ally towards us in this inſtance and others, has ſo fully manifeſted his ſincerity and kindneſs, as to excite on our part correſpondent ſentiments of confidence and affection.

Obſerving the intereſts of his kingdom, to which duty and inclination prompted his attention, to be connected with thoſe of *America*, and the combination of both clearly to coincide with the beneficent deſigns of the Author of Nature, who unqueſtionably intended men to partake of certain rights and portions of happineſs, his Majeſty perceived the attainment of theſe views to be founded on the ſingle propoſition of a ſeparation between *America* and *Great-Britain*.

The reſentment and confuſion of your enemies will point out to you the ideas you ſhould entertain of the magnanimity and conſummate wiſdom of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty on this occaſion.

They perceive, that ſelecting this grand and juſt idea from all thoſe ſpecious ones that might have confuſed or miſled inferior judgement or virtue, and ſatisfied with the advantages which muſt reſult from that event alone, he has cemented the harmony between himſelf and theſe ſtates, not only by eſtabliſhing a reciprocity of benefits, but by eradicating every cauſe of jealouſy and ſuſpicion. They alſo perceive with ſimilar emotions, that the moderation of our ally, in not deſiring an acquiſition of dominion on this continent, or an excluſion of other nations from a ſhare of its commercial advantages, ſo uſeful to them, has given no alarm to thoſe nations, but in fact has INTERESTED them in the accompliſhment of his generous undertaking to diſſolve the monopoly thereof by *Great-Britain*, which has already contributed to elevate her to her preſent power and haughtineſs, and threatened if continued to raiſe both to a height inſupportable to the reſt of *Europe*.

In ſhort, their own beſt informed ſtateſmen and writers confeſs, that your cauſe is exceedingly favoured by courts and people in that quarter of the world, while that of your adverſaries is equally reprobated; and from thence draw ominous and well grounded concluſions, that the final event muſt prove unfortunate to the latter. Indeed, we have the BEST reaſon to believe that we ſhall ſoon form other Alliances, and on principles honourable and beneficial to theſe States.

Infatuated as your enemies have been from the beginning of this conteſt, do you imagine they can now flatter themſelves with a hope of conquering you, unleſs you are falſe to yourſelves?

When unprepared, undiſciplined, and unſupported, you oppoſed their fleets and armies in full conjoined force, then, if at any time, was conqueſt to be apprehended. Yet what progreſs towards it have their violent and inceſſant efforts made? Judge from their own conduct. Having devoted you to bondage, and after vainly waſting their blood and treaſure in the diſhonourable enterprize, they deigned at length to offer terms of accommodation, with reſpectful addreſſes to that once deſpiſed body the Congreſs, whoſe humble ſupplications ONLY for Peace, Liberty and Safety, they had contemptuouſly rejected, under pretence of its being an unconſtitutional aſſembly. Nay more; deſirous of ſeducing you into a deviation from the paths of rectitude, from which they had ſo far and ſo raſhly wandered, they made moſt ſpecious offers to tempt you into a violation of your faith given to your illuſtrious Ally. Their arts were as unavailing as their arms.—Foiled again, and ſtung with rage, embittered by envy, they had no alternative, but to renounce the inglorious and ruinous controverſy, or to reſume their former modes of proſecuting it. They choſe the latter. Again the ſavages are ſtimulated to horrid maſſacres of women and children, and domeſtics to the murder of their maſters. Again our brave and unhappy brethren are doomed to miſerable deaths in gaols and priſon-ſhips. To complete the ſanguinary ſyſtem, all the "EXTREMITIES of WAR" are by authority denounced againſt you.

Piouſly endeavour to derive this conſolation from their remorſeleſs fury, that "the Father of Mercies" looks down with diſapprobation on ſuch audacious defiances of his holy laws; and be further comforted with recollecting, that the arms aſſumed by you in your righteous cauſe have not been ſullied by any unjuſtifiable ſeverities.

Your enemies, deſpairing however, as it ſeems, of the ſucceſs of their united forces againſt our main army, have divided them, as if their deſign was to harraſs you by predatory, defultory operations. If you are aſſiduous in improving opportunities, *Saratoga* may not be the only ſpot on this continent to give a new denomination to the baffled troops of a nation impiouſly priding herſelf in notions of her omnipotence.

Rouze yourſelves therefore, that this campaign may finiſh the great work you have ſo nobly carried on for ſeveral years paſt. What nation ever engaged in ſuch a conteſt under ſuch a complication of diſadvantages, ſo ſoon ſurmounted many of them, and in ſo ſhort a period of time had ſo certain a proſpect of a ſpeedy and happy concluſion. We will venture to pronounce that ſo remarkable an inſtance exiſts not in the annals of mankind. We well remember what you ſaid at the commencement of this war. You ſaw the immenſe difference between your circumſtances and thoſe of your enemies, and you knew the quarrel muſt decide on no leſs than your lives, liberties and eſtates. All theſe you greatly put to every hazard, reſolving rather to die freemen than to live ſlaves; and juſtice will oblige the impartial world to confeſs you have uniformly acted on the ſame generous principle. Conſider how much you have done, and how comparatively little remains to be done to crown you with ſucceſs. Perſevere; and you enſure Peace, Freedom, Safety, Glory, Sovereignty, and Felicity to Yourſelves, your Children, and your Childrens Children.

Encouraged by favours already received from infinite goodneſs, gratefully acknowledging them, earneſtly imploring their continuance, conſtantly endeavoring to draw them down on your heads by an amendment of your lives and a conformity to the divine will, humbly confiding in the protection ſo often and wonderfully experienced, vigorouſly employ the means placed by Providence in your hands, for compleating your labours.

Fill up your battalions—be prepared in every part to repel the incurſions of your enemies—place your ſeveral quotas in the continental treaſury—lend money for public uſes—ſink the emiſſions of your reſpective ſtates—provide effectually for expediting the conveyance of ſupplies for your armies and fleets, and for your allies—prevent the produce of the country from being monopolized—effectually ſuperintend the behavour of public officers—diligently promote piety, virtue, brotherly love, learning, frugality and moderation—and may you be approved before Almighty God worthy of thoſe bleſſings we devoutly wiſh you to enjoy.

Done in Congreſs by unanimous conſent, this twenty-ſixth day of May, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy nine. JOHN JAY, Preſident.

Atteſt. CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

Meſſieurs HALL & SELLERS.

GENTLEMEN,

EVERY day's experience teaches us the great importance of ſupporting the credit of our paper money, and that its value be reduced to ſome fixed ſtandard, by ſome other means than that of pledging the public faith. We ſee already is has not been ſufficient for that purpoſe even among our own people, and there is reaſon to think it will operate leſs with foreigners. If property continues any longer in ſuch a variable ſtate, I ſhould expect to ſee the worſt and moſt alarming conſequences take place in every part of the continent. With the beſt intentions, I have already given the public a few of my ſentiments on the ſubject, and ſhall continue to purſue the ſame line of conduct with freedom and decency, and be abundantly compenſated for my trouble, if any inſtruction or public utility may be derived from my feeble but ſincere endeavours.

In my laſt I made ſome general obſervations on the piece ſigned *Honeſtus*: I will now proceed to examine the principles advanced by this writer more minutely, as well as the great object he evidently aims at by the whole of what he advances. He ſays "our ability, in a very ſhort "time, to diſcharge the whole of the public debt is evi- "dent from a variety of conſiderations. The States owe "next to nothing abroad, the money emitted for the "common defence is all in their own hands." Taking this laſt aſſertion to be an indiſputable fact, and ſuppoſing that the money emitted is equally divided among the inhabitants of theſe States, in proportion to the aſſeſſments to be made on them individually, and that it will continue ſo until the laſt of it be called in by taxes, no one will diſpute the conſequences he draws therefrom. The trifling increaſe or decreaſe of the number of our inhabitants, of our horſes and cattle, or of our agriculture, affects not the queſtion in the leaſt; for this being really the caſe, each individual has only to deliver the paper in his poſſeſſion to the collector, or even, to ſave the trouble of collection, throw it into the fire himſelf, and the whole debt is ſunk at once. But I obſerved before that facts are very different from what he ſtates them—that a conſiderable proportion of our paper paſſed early into the hands of foreigners, who, relying on the faith of theſe United States pledged for the payment and redemption of it, received it in exchange for their produce, purchaſed by our merchants, agents and factors; that this proportion of our money actually abroad at this time is daily increaſing, that the capital part ſtill among us is very unequally divided, and will neceſſarily become more ſo, as the quantity is leſſened and the value of the remainder of courſe appreciated. Honeſtus ſays, *there is a trifling debt in France* and *ſome intereſt due for money loaned*. He ſtates our debt in America, as it ſtood in January, at £ 31,500,000 lawful money, at ſix ſhillings the Spaniſh milled dollar, and allowing a groſs ſum for foreign debts, makes the whole to be £ 32,000,000, or £ 42,666,666 13 4 New-York currency, £ 40,000,000 Pennſylvania currency, and £ 24,000,000 ſterl. and immediately introducing his term preſent currency, ſays this ſum is conſiderably leſs than £ 4,000,000, being on the ſcale he calculates no more than £ 3,200,000 L. M. I need to make no further enquiry what idea he means to convey by the expreſſion. It is evident, that he propoſes that all the debts of theſe United States, whether in paper bills, loan-office certificates, or due on contracts, ſhall be paid off and diſcharged at the rate of one thouſand per cent. diſcount, or with two ſhillings in the pound, by which the merchant or banker in France, who has advanced one thouſand pounds ſterling, ſhall receive therefor only one hundred, or leſs, if the *preſent currency* at the time of payment ſhould be ſtill more depreciated, by which *all*, whether foreigners or citizens of theſe States, ſhall be paid their ſeveral demands on the public at the ſame rate; the whole of this gentleman's calculations are founded on the principle of inſolvency, or on the ſuppoſition before mentioned, that the money emitted is all in our hands and equally diſtributed.—This ſuppoſition being contrary to facts, as I have already ſhewn, unleſs he can maintain that his principle is juſt, and that it is conſiſtent with the public faith and honour of theſe States, who by his own computation are poſſeſſed of eſtate to the amount of 240 millions, and owing only 32 millions, to make themſelves bankrupt and pay for the £ 32,000,000, only £ 3,200,000, or two ſhillings in the pound, the whole of his reaſoning and calculations muſt fall to the ground.

I have not examined, nor ſhall I, whether his ſtate of the public debt, as it ſtood on the firſt of January, is above or below the real amount: I imagine it will be found conſiderably below, excluſive of the private debt, owed by each State ſeparately, and which is very conſiderable from ſome of them. Not being myſelf in the great council of theſe States, nor in the way of knowing officially and with certainty the exact ſtate of the debt of theſe States, I content myſelf with knowing on this ſubject, as well as moſt others of a public nature, as much and no more than Congreſs judge proper to publiſh.

As that honourable body have ordered their journals to be publiſhed, I cannot but expreſs here, with all due ſubmiſſion, what I have long wiſhed for, that the public debt ſhould be ſtated and aſcertained, at leaſt annually, and publiſhed; this would prevent all miſrepreſentations on either ſide, and defeat the deſigns of thoſe, who on the one hand repreſent the public debt much greater than it really is, with the view of diſcouraging the citizens of theſe States, and leſſening their confidence in the final and honourable payment thereof, the primary and original cauſe of the depreciation, of which we complain at this time, and which has at laſt juſtly alarmed all ranks and degrees of men amongſt us; on the other, it will prevent the effects, which thoſe publications repreſenting the debt much leſs than it really is, muſt produce ſooner or later.—Effects no leſs miſchievous than thoſe flowing from an exaggerated ſtating of it.—Indeed I think the public ought annually at leaſt to be informed what their debt is, and for what purpoſes it has in general been contracted: This will be acting openly, will prevent ſuſpicion and inſpire confidence.—And I will venture to aſſert, that thoſe who, with a miſtaken friendſhip for our cauſe, repreſent the public debt leſs than it really is, and ſeriouſly propoſe further to cancel nine tenths of it at one ſtroke, or nineteen twentieths of it, if the *preſent currency* or exchange come to that, do our money the greateſt poſſible injury, and ſo far as their doctrine has been, or may hereafter be admitted, they are more accountable for the depreciation, and its dreadful alarming conſequences, than all other orders of men collectively. I ſhall now lay before the public one fact, and compare it with that kind of reaſoning in which unfortunately this writer is not ſingular; on the contrary he has too many in high ſtation to keep him in countenance; and then leave common ſenſe to judge, if it be poſſible but that our paper muſt depreciate; and then let common honeſty determine what faith or honour is due to us, or our money, if ſuch a mode of reaſoning and ſuch concluſions are admitted.

The fact is, Congreſs by ſeveral reſolutions, particularly on the 14th of January, pledge the faith of the United States, that the poſſeſſor of the bills emitted ſhall be paid in Spaniſh milled dollars, or in ſilver or gold equivalent. The reſolution is, "*That the form of the bill be as follows:*

"*No.* ---------- *Dollars. The bearer is entitled to receive* ----- *Spaniſh milled dollars, or an equal ſum in gold or ſilver, according to a reſolution of Congreſs of the* 14*th January* 1779." "*That the faith of the United States be pledged for the redemption of ſuch bills on or before the firſt day of January* 1797, *agreeable to the reſolutions of Congreſs aforeſaid.*"—The argument of this writer is (if I may call it by that name) Congreſs, it is true, have emitted bills to the amount of 31,500,000, or 32,000,000 l. L. M. on this footing; but exchange or preſent currency being now reduced to ten for one, they ſhall be paid off indiſcriminately at that rate. Certain modern Machiavels (and in public truſt too) roundly advance, that public and political juſtice and honour are intirely different in their nature from private, ſocial and mercantile, and reſt on a different baſis and principles—they aſſert that as to national good-will, affection or gratitude, it is idle to talk of them, they do not exiſt—that national ſelf-intereſt is, and ought to be, the only principle and rule of conduct. I call theſe men *modern Machiavels*, becauſe they are fond of being thought ſuch, though they really are no more like that truly great man than they are like Hercules.—Americans, however, are not yet entirely weaned from their old way of thinking and judging, in favour of which they will, I doubt not, remain prejudiced, until ſome one of theſe great geniuſes ſhall offer arguments more convincing than any as yet offered to ſupport this their new ſyſtem of political morals.—The other ideas which this writer endeavours to fix on the minds of the public are as prejudicial to our preſent ſafety, as thoſe already treated of are deſtructive of every principle of moral honeſty. He ſays, "*The tempeſt of war ſeems almoſt to have ſpent its rage.*" That "*our enemies have been and undoubtedly ſtill are making overtures of peace.*"—That, "*ſuch is our credit and ſuch our alliances in Europe, "that ſhould we at any time need money, we might borrow "any ſum we pleaſe.*" He repreſents our enemy to be in the moſt diſtreſſed and even contemptible ſituation, and though we *(if indeed we need money)* can borrow any ſum we pleaſe, yet he warns us not to do it, by attributing the preſent diſtreſſes of Great-Britain to their having borrowed money on intereſt.—There is perhaps no neceſſity for making particular obſervations on theſe general aſſertions.—The preſent operations of our enemies ſhew that the tempeſt of war appears very far from having ſpent its rage. If our enemies have been, and ſtill are making overtures of peace; what have not they to anſwer for to God, to their country, and to mankind, who, for any partial, temporary conſiderations whatever, obſtruct the opening a negociation, and who for one moment delay to ſtop the further effuſion of human blood? "*Such* (ſays he) *is our credit.*"—It is hard to ſay what can exceed the effrontery of a man, to talk of credit, when in the ſame breath he coolly propoſes the paying his debts at two ſhillings in the pound, though he boaſts of poſſeſſing an immenſe fortune. "*Suck our alliances in Europe*"---the public know of but one; this one rightly improved is indeed ſufficient; but if we go off from the great, equal, and generous terms the alliance was formed on; if we betray at firſt ſetting out, and as I may expreſs myſelf, in this early ſtage of our political exiſtence, baſe, fraudulent, ſelfiſh and ambitious views, we have no right to expect freſh alliances, nor to maintain the one we have procured. It is a rare inſtance in the hiſtory of the world, and cannot be too often mentioned, that his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty had no ambitious or partial views in forming the alliance with theſe States. He conſidered us as a brave, virtuous, and free people, worthy of his friendſhip and ſupport, whilſt contending for our liberty and independence.—He generouſly gave us his friendſhip and aſſiſtance, and more, invited other powers, even our enemies, to do the ſame.—That he is now exhauſting his treaſures, and expoſing the lives and fortunes of his kingdom on our account; and ſhall we at the ſame time be capable of harbouring, for a moment, ideas, which are unworthy, I will not ſay of a brave and honeſt nation, but even of a private citizen? Overtures of peace have been made, as this writer ſays, and as is generally reported and believed.—The diſpoſition of His Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and the French nation for peace is well known. I know there are men (and we have many of them among us) who form their judgment of every thing by what paſſes in their own hearts, and that ſuch men are diſpoſed to attribute every thing great and noble to ſelfiſh and intereſted motives; but when I ſay that our ally has no deſire to continue the war, and that it was not ambitious views which led His Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to engage in it, I aſk the public to remember, that the great object propoſed by the alliance, on the part France, was to render theſe States free and independent, and thereby ſeparate them from Great-Britain for ever; the conſequence of which would be, an increaſe of the commerce of France, and the preventing Great-Britain (at all times powerful at ſea) from becoming ſo enormouſly ſuperior on that element, as to be able to give law to the world. The ambition of the King of France has for its objects the encouragement and perfection of arts, commerce, agriculture and population in his fertile and extenſive dominions in Europe; the carrying theſe to that height which France is capable of, will render his kingdom, without any acquiſition of new territory, the moſt powerful, rich and happy empire in the world; and fortunate indeed it is for the ſubjects of France, that they have a Prince, who in the prime of life, counſelled and directed by wiſe and experienced Miniſters, purſues the only road to true and ſolid glory.

The King had reaſon to expect, that the armament ſent out laſt year for our relief would have effectually broken the Britiſh Force in America, and forced that nation to conſult her own true intereſt, by repreſſing her views of domination, in the acknowledgment of the independence of theſe States. This point obtained, it is evident from the treaty, and from the apparent diſpoſition of the Court, that France would demand nothing further from Great-Britain or America. This being the ſimple object in view, France wiſhed to avoid if poſſible entering into the war at all, and moſt certainly cannot wiſh the continuance of it. If Great-Britain will not liſten to reaſonable and juſt terms, the allies of France muſt undoubtedly interpoſe, and offer their mediation, and (if rejected) their aid to France and theſe States againſt England; but it is eaſy to ſee, that the allies of France will pay too great a regard to national juſtice to commit themſelves actively in the war, before they know what terms are inſiſted on by each contending party. Thus ſituated, it became neceſſary that America ſhould explicitly ſay, on what terms they would conſent to a treaty of peace. For this purpoſe Congreſs were applied to early in February, or ſome time in January laſt. It is credibly reported theſe overtures were made—his Majeſty's inclination for peace communicated at the ſame time, and many honourable propoſals laid before Congreſs.

This was by no means a ſubject to be communicated to the public at large—it is, I know, ſomewhat delicate to touch on it at preſent; but as the good people of this continent were at the time led to expect great and happy conſequences therefrom, and that peace and ſafety were then within their reach, and as it were at the door, without even the expence and diſtreſſes of another campaign, can it be improper to enquire what cauſes, or what events have blaſted and deſtroyed thoſe flattering hopes? Are we diſpoſed to continue the war at all events? Have we men in our public councils, who object to the making any overtures in return, but ſuch as ſhall put us in the poſſeſſion of what the treaties of Paris never ſtipulated for or guaranteed to us?

The talking ſo much about our ſtrength, our reſources, our alliances, and of the weakneſs and diſtreſs of our enemies, render it but too probable that there are many who purſue this line of conduct, and who, with the writer of a letter inſerted in a late Boſton paper, ſaid to be a letter from the ſouthward, are *apprehenſive* of a peace, and wiſh to force our ally to continue the war until ſuch terms as they mean to dictate ſhall be obtained. It is a melancholy truth, that the diſappointment which the public met with, as to *the great and good news* ſo induſtriouſly circulated about three or four months ſince, and the late open ſupport of the deſign of paying off our money at a moſt enormous diſcount, have injured, not only the credit of our money, but by amuſing the people, and lulling them into ſecurity, greatly retarded our preparations for the opening campaign.

I will not encroach farther on the patience of the public at this time, but recommend it to every one who wiſhes well to this country, ſeriouſly to weigh and conſider what our real ſtrength and reſources are; thoſe of our ally are confeſſedly great; but what right have we to place a confidence in them, if by diſhoneſt practices, or by ambitious views, we go off from the great principles we ſet out with, and render ourſelves unworthy of his confidence, and juſtly ſuſpected by other powers? We have undertaken, it may be truly ſaid, to rear the greateſt, moſt auguſt, and moſt noble fabric the ſun ever beheld: And God forbid that we ſhould attempt to lay the foundations of this temple for liberty, peace and ſafety, on breach of faith, on injuſtice and ingratitude.

AMERICANUS.

INDIANA PROPRIETORS

ARE to meet, agreeable to adjournment, at the houſe of Mr. FRANCIS LEE, at the ſign of the Indian Queen, on Tueſday, the 5th of July, at five o'clock in the afternoon, on affairs of conſequence, on which day the concerned are requeſted to attend, or their attornies for them. By order,

May 29, 1779. ‖ 4*W*. D. FRANKS, Preſident.

To be Sold by

JOHN M'CALLA, junior,

At the corner of Spruce and Second-ſtreets,

A Neat aſſortment of Glaſs Ware, among which are plain and flowered quart, pint and half pint tumblers, quart and pint decanters, wine and beer glaſſes. Alſo Spirits, Weſt-India rum, Loaf and Muſcovado Sugars, Bohea Tea, Chocolate, &c. &c. &c. ¶

SIXTY DOLLARS Reward.

RUN away from John M'Calla, ſenior, the day before the Britiſh army came into this city, a Negroe man, named Peter, about 24 years of age, five feet four or five inches high, a ſtout looking fellow, and has remarkably large feet; he was ſeen in this city the latter end of laſt winter, and may yet be lurking about town. Whoever takes up and ſecures ſaid Negroe in any goal, ſo as his maſter gets him again, ſhall have the above reward, and reaſonable charges, paid by JOHN M'CALLA, junior ¶

STOLEN out of the paſture, from the ſubſcriber, in Brandywine Hundred, near Wilmington, on the night of the 23d of May, 1779, a black gelding HORSE, 11 or 12 years old, has a ſmall ſtar in his forehead, a ſmall white ſpot on his back, a little white on one of his hind feet, his mane cut off his withers, hath not been docked, near 14½ hands high, had no ſhoes on when ſtolen, paces and trots, and was in good order. Whoever takes up ſaid horſe, and ſecures him, ſo that the owner may get him again, ſhall have *Forty Dollars*, and if the thief is ſecured, ſo that he may be brought to juſtice, ſhall have *Twenty Dollars* reward, paid by NATHANIEL CLOUD. ¶

TO THE PUBLIC.

WHEREAS ELIZABETH, the daughter of VRONDLE POTESWA, hath ſworn that ſhe was with child by me, and by courſe of law I was obliged to marry her for my lawful wife, and therefore I forewarn all perſons whatſoever not to truſt her any thing upon my account, as I am determined to pay none of her debts contracted againſt me,

May 29, 1779. † DANIEL TEANEY.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, in Horſham township, Philadelphia county, on the 27th day of April laſt, a bay HORSE, about 14 years old, between 13 and 14 hands high. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. JOHN SIMPSON. ¶

One Hundred and Fifty Dollars Reward.

STOLEN out of the paſture of the ſubſcriber, living in Middletown, Bucks County, on the night of the 25th inſtant, a dark iron-grey MARE, four years old, about 14 hands high, a natural trotter, and in good order, no ſhoes on. Whoever takes up and ſecures the ſaid mare, ſo that the owner gets her again and the thief brought to juſtice, ſhall be entitled to the above reward, or *One Hundred Dollars* for the mare only, by

May 27, 1779. JOHN JENKS. ¶

New-Jerſey, Fifth Month 26, 1779.

WHEREAS JUDAH CLEMENS, of Waterford township, in the State of New-Jerſey, is frequently deprived of the uſe of his reaſon, this therefore is to inform all perſons thereof, and to forewarn them not to credit him, or to purchaſe from him any part of his eſtate, either real or perſonal, his being in the above unhappy ſituation rendering him incapable of tranſacting his buſineſs. Tavern-keepers in particular are requeſted not to ſupply him with liquor. ¶

WAS taken up on the 16th of April laſt, a roan Horſe, about 14 hands high, and about four years old, not ſhod. The owner, by applying to the ſubſcriber, in Laſt-Caln townſhip, between the ſign of the Ship and Downing's-Town, proving his property, and paying the charges, may have him again. ¶

SAMUEL HEYNEY.

BOSTON, May 20.

Since our laſt ſeveral veſſels have arrived at different ports, from Statia, Martinico, Gaudaloup, and other parts of the Weſt-Indies; by theſe veſſels we have it reported, that Admiral Byron, and the Count d'Eſtaing were ſtill at their old ſtations, without having made any capital movement. Some attribute this to a pacific diſpoſition at bottom of both Courts; others, to the inferiority of Byron in ſeamen, and of the Count in ſhips. That not long ſince, Admiral Byron ſent 4 men of war of the line, and a number of frigates, to cruize not far from Martinico, the Count as ſoon as he was apprized of it, ſent a number of the line and frigates to take care of them; this motion drew out by ſucceſſive detachments both fleets, but without producing any general action.

By the above veſſels we hear, that Count d'Eſtaing having embarked his troops, and made ſuch diſpoſitions as indicated ſome enterprize in view, all the iſland of St. Kitts was in arms, expecting a viſit from the French fleet, and every precaution taken there for the defence of the iſland.

By the ſame channel we are informed that two ſhips of the line, belonging to the ſquadron of Admiral Byron, were hauled up at St. Lucia, for want of men, each of them having buried three hundred of their ſailors.

By a veſſel lately arrived at Martinico from the Havanna, an account was brought that the laſt mentioned place was in the beſt ſtate of defence. Beſides 14000 men, of which the militia on the iſland of Cuba now conſiſts, who are regimental, and conſiderably well diſciplined, there are eight regiments of regular troops at the Havanna; five ſhips of the line, and twelve frigates in the port. Two ſhips of 90 and 60 guns ready to be launched; and ſeveral others of high rates on the ſtocks. The Americans, who flock there from all parts, are well received with their cargoes of every kind.

A letter from a tory in England, to a friend in N. York, written in cyphers, was taken in a late prize:—Upon decyphering it, it was found that the writer gives a very ſerious account of the uneaſineſs, tumults, and mobs in England, occaſioned by the preſent ſituation of affairs, and particularly Admiral Keppel's treatment. The letter affirms that the complaints againſt the preſent adminiſtration and government are loud, and not to be ſtilled; and that the cry is, *root and branch muſt be taken away*, or the nation is undone.

Wedneſday laſt a prize ſhip of 250 tons, laden with ſalt, arrived ſafe in port. We hear ſhe was captured near the channel of England.

We hear a number of ſmall veſſels from Newport, ſuppoſed in queſt of plunder, appeared off Falmouth, on Saturday laſt.

We hear that the ſloop Providence has returned into a port in this State, having, during her ſhort abſence, fell in with, and took, after an obſtinate engagement, the brigantine Diligence, mounting 12 carriage guns and 53 men, belonging to the King of Great-Britain, and fitted out by the Admiral.—This brig was of equal force with the ſloop, and though her officers and men defended her with obſtinacy, they were obliged to ſubmit to the ſuperior bravery of Capt. HACKER, and the gallantry of his officers and men. The enemy had 8 killed and 19 wounded, three of which are ſince dead—Capt. HACKER had two men killed and twelve wounded, two of which, viz. Mr. Rogers, ſailing maſter, and Mr. Chilton, Lieut. of marines, two valuable officers, are ſince dead, much regretted. Capt. HACKER alſo re-took a ſchooner in the ſervice of the Continent, bound to Boſton, with 520 caſks of rice--They are all ſafe arrived.

NEW-LONDON, May 20.

Thurſday laſt arrived here a Sloop from Corke, bound to New-York, laden with proviſions—a prize to the Ship Putnam.

Sunday was ſent into port, the privateer Lady Erſkine, Capt. Drew, of 8 guns, taken in ſight of this harbour by the Handcock and Beaver privateers, out of a fleet of 21 ſail, who were bound from New-York to Rhode-Iſland under convoy of the Thames, a Britiſh frigate of 36 guns.

The ſame day arrived a Sloop from the Weſt-Indies, prize to the American Revenue and Revenge privateers, her cargo rum, ſugar, &c.

Tueſday arrived here the privateer American Revenue, Capt. Leeds and brought in with her the privateer ſchooner Sally, Capt. Spelling, of 8 guns, and alſo a ſchooner (Pilot-boat built) from North Carolina, bound to the Weſt-Indies, laden with tobacco and tar, who had been taken by a Britiſh privateer.

Saturday three ſloops from Newport, bound to Saghar-bour for wood, finding no convoy at that place, ſet ſail with an intention of returning, but were intercepted by two armed boats, and ſent into Stonington.

Since our laſt was ſent into Connecticut river, a ſloop with one hogſhead of rum, and ſix hogſheads of melaſſes, captured by two whaleboats.

The ſame day alſo arrived here, the brig-----, Capt. Phipps, in 10 days from Charleſtown, South Carolina, who informs, that the Britiſh army conſiſting of 7000 men, had made a circuitous march by way of Puryſburgh, and got into the rear of Gen. Lincoln's army of 3000 men, and in the front of Gen. Moultrie's army, alſo of 3000, within 50 miles of Charleſtown; that Charleſtown was picketed and walled in by the inhabitants, who were determined to defend the town to the laſt extremity, provided the enemy ſhould be hardy enough to proceed to that place.

We hear that a privateer ſloop, belonging to the enemy, which had landed her men on Nantucket, and robbed the inhabitants of ſome effects, was laſt week boarded by a boat, having a number of men armed with Lances and Harpoons, who took the veſſel.

Yeſterday was ſent into this port by the ſhip Oliver Cromwell, a ſchooner from Baltimore, burthen about 30 tons; ſhe had been taken by a Britiſh cruizer, and was retaken the ſouth ſide of Long-Iſland.

PROVIDENCE, *May* 20.

Thurſday laſt arrived a brig, in ten days paſſage from South-Carolina.

By letters received in the above veſſel, it appears,---- That the American army, in that quarter, enjoys the greateſt degree of health, is in the higheſt ſpirits, and daily encreaſing; and it is expected, that it will ſoon be in ſufficient force to drive the enemy from Georgia, and re-eſtabliſh a free government there, inſtead of the *civil military* tyranny it now ſuffers.---That the Britons, by their emiſſaries, lately attempted to burn Charleſtown; but one of the miſcreants being caught with a fire brand in his hand, juſt ſetting fire to a houſe, was immediately burnt.---That two villains were lately hanged there, who were taken up ſome time ago, in attempting to go to the enemy, with a plan of all the forts in and near Charleſtown, and a particular account of all the troops in that department.

Extract of a letter from Boſton, dated May 17.

"The brig Venus, Capt. Dunn, is arrived at Plymouth from Cape Francois. She was captured by a Britiſh privateer, but previous to their coming on board, Captain Dunn deſired ſeveral of his paſſengers to repair below and conceal themſelves, ſuppoſing, as he added, it was probable that the enemy would ſend but few men on board the brig, his conjectures were right, and as the privateer ſoon diſcovered and purſued another veſſel, the perſons below ruſhed upon deck, recovered poſſeſſion of the brig, and conducted her ſafe to the above port."

FISH-KILL, *May* 27.

By a perſon from Peek's Kill we learn, that five of the enemy's light horſemen had juſt come in there, and brought off their horſes and accoutrements.

It is aſſerted that the enemy at New-York are in motion, and have determined to attack ſome of our poſts on this river. This intelligence is corroborated by ſome of their veſſels coming up the river a few days ſince, in order, as is ſuppoſed, to reconnoitre our preſent ſituation in this quarter.

WILLIAMSBURG *(Virginia) May* 22.

We have no particular accounts of the enemy; but that upon their hearing of a number of militia were coming to attack them, they retreated with great precipitation from Suffolk to Portſmouth, where, it is ſaid, they are throwing up fortifications.

Several deſerters have come in from the enemy, and inform that their deſign is not to ſtay here long; that many others were determined to deſert, on account of the bad uſage they receive.

ANNAPOLIS, *May* 28.

We hear, from good authority, that the Governor and Council have given orders to the gentlemen appointed by this State to purchaſe wheat and flour for the uſe of the army, to ſtop purchaſing, the quantity required having been procured.

PHILADELPHIA, June 2.

Sunday laſt the Schooner Lady Waſhington, Captain Newton Cannon, arrived here in 11 days from Providence, who informs, that he heard there from ſeveral Britiſh Captains of veſſels, that General Lincoln had routed the Britiſh forces in South-Carolina, ſomewhere about Puryſburg, and killed and taken about 1400 of them, but he could gather no further particulars.

By a gentleman from the Weſtward we have a confirmation of the brave Col. Clarke's ſucceſs in the Illinois country. Major Hamilton, the Governor of the Britiſh fort, with his garriſon, were met a few days ago, on their way to Virginia.

It is ſaid the above fort contained ſtores and other property to a conſiderable amount, and that, previous to its ſurrender, 80 armed boats (with 20 hogſheads of rum, &c.) were taken by a party of Col. Clarke's men, as they were going up the Wabaſh to carry ſupplies to Governor Hamilton.

The enemy it is ſaid left Hampton, in Virginia, on the 26th inſtant.

SIR, *Williamſburg, May* 21, 1779.

"Being in the greateſt haſte to diſpatch your expreſs, I have not time to give you any very particular information concerning the preſent invaſion; let it ſuffice therefore to inform Congreſs that the enemy's ſhips are nearly the ſame as was mentioned in my former letter; with regard to the number of the troops which landed and took Portſmouth, and afterwards proceeded, burnt, plundered and deſtroyed Suffolk, committing various barbarities, we are ſtill ignorant, as the accounts from deſerters differ widely; perhaps, however, it may not exceed 2000 or 2500 men.

"I truſt that we have a ſufficient number of troops ſtationed in certain proportions at this place, York, Hampton, and on the ſouth ſide of James river.

"When any further particulars come to my knowledge they ſhall be communicated to Congreſs without delay. I have the honour to be,

Sir, your humble ſervant,

To the Hon. the Preſident of Congreſs. P. HENRY.

P. S. I am pretty certain that the land forces are commanded by General Matthews, and the fleet by Sir George Collier."

SIR, *Williamſburg, May* 21, 1779.

"I received the letter which accompanies this yeſterday, from South-Carolina, by expreſs; and by deſire of Lieut. Governor Bee tranſmit it to you for the peruſal of Congreſs. With great regard, I have the honour to be,

Sir, your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervant,

His Excellency the Preſident of Congreſs. P. HENRY.

Charleſtown (South-Carolina) May 5, 1779.

SIR,

The enemy having croſſed from Georgia to this State, and by a rapid movement got between General Lincoln and Charleſtown, are bending their whole force this way; they were this morning within 68 miles of us, and are purſuing General Moultrie, who with about 1500 men is retreating before them. Governor Rutledge, with about 350 men, had marched from Orangeburgh on Monday, to join General Moultrie, but I much fear will be too late. General Lincoln intended coming on their rear, but they were at leaſt four days march ahead of him.

In this ſituation I thought it my duty once more to requeſt the aid of our brethren of Virginia. No time is to be loſt. Indeed I fear any aſſiſtance will come full late.

I am with great eſteem,

your Excellency's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

THO. BEE.

Col. John Laurens received a ſlight wound in the arm, in a ſkirmiſh with the enemy's advanced party yeſterday, and his horſe was alſo ſhot. He is in a good way. Pray let his father know this, as I have not time to write to him.

His Excellency Patrick Henry, Eſq; Governor of Virginia.

By order of Congreſs,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

ASSIZE of BREAD for the City of Philadelphia, Northern Liberties and Southwark.

A WHITE Loaf of fine Flour to weigh One Pound and Six Ounces, for Five Shillings.

One Loaf of Ditto to weigh Two Pounds, for Seven Shillings and Six-pence.

Set May 31ſt, 1779, by *John Ord, Plunket Fleeſon, Benjamin Paſchal, Iſaac Howell, William Adlock, William Ball*, and *William M'Mullan*, Juſtices of the Peace for the City and County.

COMMITTEE-ROOM, May 28 1779.

Reſolved, That the retail prices of the underwritten articles on the firſt day of May were as follows—

Coffee -	per pound,	£ 0	17	6
Bohea Tea,	ditto,	4	15	0
Loaf Sugar,	ditto,	2	15	0
Muſcovado Sugar,	ditto, from	0	18	9 to £ 1 5 0 according to quality.
Weſt-India Rum,	by gallon or quart,	7	0	0
Country Rum,	by do. or do.	5	5	0
Whiſkey,	by do.	2	0	0
Rice,	per pound,	0	3	0

And as it is abſolutely neceſſary, that dry goods and all other commodities, whether imported or produce of the country, ſhould fall in price as well as thoſe articles which are already publiſhed. Therefore,

Reſolved, That this Committee do earneſtly requeſt and expect, that no perſon do ſell any commodity whatever, at a higher price than the ſame was ſold for on the firſt day of this month.

By order of the Committee,

WILLIAM HENRY, Chairman.

In COMMITTEE, May 31ſt, 1779.

Notice is hereby given, that the Committee will aſcertain, as ſoon as poſſible, the wholeſale and retail prices of goods as they ſtood on the firſt day of April laſt, and that the prices to be fixt in conſequence thereof are to become current on the firſt day of July next enſuing; and to remain ſo till the next regulation.

The prices, as they are already fixt, being reduced to what they were on the firſt day of May, are to remain in being for the month of June, or as much cheaper as buyer and ſeller can agree.

Reſolved, That it be recommended to our fellow-citizens in the country, who ſupply the markets in this city with produce and proviſions, that they likewiſe lower their prices.

Reſolved, That if any inhabitant or inhabitants of this city ſhall be detected in offering or giving an extravagant price for any articles brought to market, ſuch perſon or perſons, whoever they may be, ſhall be ſummoned to appear at the Coffee-houſe on that, or the enſuing market day, or at the next General Town Meeting, as the caſe may require. And that if any perſon or perſons ſhall be detected in unjuſtly impoſing on people coming to market, or in market, by forcibly obliging them to take prices for their commodities much below their value, that ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall be held up as aforeſaid.

Reſolved, That an enquiry be made into the old and preſent rent of houſes.

And whereas the numerous articles of dry goods, and variety of their aſſortments, render it difficult to aſcertain and fix their ſeveral values, the Committee do therefore earneſtly recommend to the public, to be as ſlack in making purchaſes for the preſent as their neceſſity will admit of. And do hereby inform, that they will enquire into the prices of broad and narrow cloths, and ſuch other principal articles in the dry goods trade, as when fixt may lead to a knowledge of the comparative value of other articles.

And whereas, in the preſent time of general ſuffering and reſentment, it may happen that innocent perſons may, by miſtake, be expoſed to the unmerited cenſure of their fellow-citizens, while thoſe who truly deſerve it eſcape—This Committee therefore, in order to prevent as much as in them lies any miſtakes, and the conſequences ariſing therefrom, as well as to carry the reſolves of the General Town Meeting into effectual execution, will receive information, either in writing or perſonally, againſt perſons tranſgreſſing the reſolutions of the General Town Meeting, or evading or obſtructing the execution of the ſame, and that after having aſcertained the charge, the perſons ſo offending to be notified thereof in writing, ſigned by the Chairman.

Reſolved, That a Committee of three do ſit by rotation at the Court-houſe, from nine to twelve every day (Sundays excepted) to receive complaints, and to report the ſame to the General Committee.

Reſolved, That this Committee will not take on themſelves to determine the puniſhment due to any perſon or perſons who ſhall tranſgreſs the reſolves of the General Town Meeting; but that after having aſcertained the facts will leave ſuch perſon or perſons to make their peace with the public the beſt way they can, unleſs deſired to interpoſe. WILLIAM HENRY, Chairman.

*** *The* Honeſt Politician *will be in our next.*

RUN away on the 30th of May from the ſubſcriber, living in Aſton townſhip, Cheſter county, a ſervant man, named Jonathan Smith, about 25 years of age, five feet eleven inches high, ſlim built, pock-marked, and has the mark of a ſore on his neck, occaſioned by the king's evil; had on when he went away, an old light coloured cloth coatee, tow ſhirt and trowſers, but will perhaps change his clothes. Whoever takes up and ſecures ſaid ſervant, ſo as his maſter may have him again, ſhall have FIFTY DOLLARS reward, and reaſonable charges, paid by ¶ JAMES PENNELL.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN from the paſture of the ſubſcriber, living in New Hanover townſhip, Philadelphia county, a black HORSE, about 15 hands high, a natural pacer, with a white ſtar in his forehead, is docked very ſhort, and carries his head very low. Whoever brings ſaid horſe to the owner, ſhall have the above reward, and all reaſonable charges, paid by

May 31, 1779. ‖ CHRISTIAN BLEM.

STRAYED or STOLEN away, May the 7th, from the ſubſcriber, living at the Blue Houſe, on South-ſtreet, near the Pennſylvania Hoſpital, a cheſnut bay HORSE, near 15 hands high, ſhod before, a natural pacer, neither brand nor ear-mark, eight years old, has ſome white hairs on his forehead and on his mane, been hurt by the collar, and ſome white hairs on his tail, been hurt by the crupper, a ſmall ſwitch tail, ſome white ſpots on his back, been hurt with the ſaddle. Whoever takes up ſaid horſe, ſo that the owner may get him again, ſhall have THIRTY DOLLARS Reward, paid by ¶ HENRY YOUNG.

Philadelphia, May 5, 1779.

To be LETT, for one or more years, and may be entered on the firſt day of Auguſt next,

THAT old accuſtomed and well known INN, called the BLACK HORSE Tavern, ſituate in Black Horſe Alley, oppoſite Lætitia Court. For terms, enquire of BENJAMIN FLOWER, in Pear-ſtreet, near Third-ſtreet; or, in his abſence, of Mr. ANDREW DOZ, in Third-ſtreet. *

ALL Perſons indebted to the Eſtate of MARGARET SETTLETON, late of the Manor of Moreland, deceaſed, are deſired to make Payment; and all thoſe Perſons who have any Demands againſt ſaid Eſtate, are deſired to bring in their Accounts, properly atteſted, that they may be paid, by ANDREW DUNBAR, and JOHN MAN, jun. Executors. §

PHILADELPHIA.

At a General Meeting of the Citizens of Philadelphia, and Parts adjacent, at the State-House Yard in this City, on Monday, the 24th of May, General ROBERDEAU *was unanimously requested to take the Chair, who introduced the Business with the following* ADDRESS:

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH I feel pain from the situation in which you have been pleased to place me, it is with pleasure I meet you, my Fellow Citizens, to consider and determine upon measures for our mutual and public happiness. A beneficent God has hitherto blessed us with success, and carried us through a four years war with as few misfortunes as could possibly be expected. We have much to be thankful for; and though many worthy individuals have greatly suffered, yet, as a nation, we have but little to complain of.

The dangers we are now exposed to arise from evils created among ourselves. I scorn, and I hope every Citizen here scorns, the thought of getting rich by sucking the blood of his country; yet, alas! this unnatural, this cruel, this destructive practice, is the greatest cause of our present calamities. The way to make our money good is to reduce the prices of goods and provisions. It is not the quantity of money which any man gets—but how far that money will go when he comes to lay it out again, that makes him poor or rich.

The tax that has been laid upon us by monopolizers and forestallers within these six months past, for it may justly be called a tax, amounts to more money than would carry the war on twelve months to come.

There is at present no law for regulating the prices in the shops and markets, neither is there any law to prevent such regulations being made, and therefore, the whole rests upon the virtue and common consent of the community. I have no doubt but combinations have been formed for raising the prices of goods and provisions, and therefore the community, in their own defence, have a natural right to counteract such combinations, and to set limits to evils which affect themselves.

It is impossible, Gentlemen, to cure the disease all at once, but it must be begun upon; and as this city appears to be the place in which the disease was first bred, this likewise is the place where the remedy ought to be first applied. Do you, Gentlemen, set the example, and I think there is little doubt but others will follow it.

Within these five or six months goods and provisions have risen week by week—Surely, Gentlemen, we can do as much as the monopolizers have done, and bring the prices down again week by week. By this means there will be money to spare to pay taxes with; for at the rate things now are, it takes all the country peoples money to go to the shops with, and all the town peoples money to go to market with, and the whole community is growing poor under a notion of getting rich.

Some worthy citizens, who have the success of our glorious cause at heart, have undertaken to form a plan for regularly reducing the prices of goods and provisions, and keeping up the value of the money, and this plan, as I understand, is to be laid before you at some future meeting. For my own part, Gentlemen, I shall joyfully assist in any judicious measures for the public happiness, and have no doubt but you will do the same.

It is a surprising thing that the more goods we have had brought into this city, the dearer they have been; and this is one of the evils which it is absolutely necessary to enquire into. But the great point is to begin.

The paper I have in my hand contains some resolutions which have been drawn up and agreed on by a Committee of Citizens, which, with your approbation, I will read. I propose first to read the whole through, and then read it a second time by paragraphs, in order to take your sense thereon.

The paper being read, after some amendments, was agreed to as follows:

WHEREAS the prices of goods and provisions have, within the space of five or six months, risen to an enormous height, far beyond what they ought to be in proportion to the quantity of the money. The prices of dry goods have arisen when they ought to have decreased, and every new cargo, instead of lessening the prices, has raised them.

Resolved, That the public have a right to enquire into the causes of such extraordinary abuses, and prevent them.

And whereas, since the late importation of a cargo of goods, said to have been since purchased or consigned to the management of Mr. Robert Morris, Merchant, or others, the prices of all kinds of dry goods have been greatly advanced, to the injury of the public, and the great detriment of trade.

Resolved, That this meeting, justifying their conduct on the necessity of the measure, and being deeply affected and injured by those increasing evils, will appoint a Committee to enquire of Mr. Robert Morris, or others, what part he or they have acted respecting the said cargo, and to require from him or them their answers in writing to such questions as the Committee may find it necessary to put, and to report the same at the next general Town Meeting.

And whereas the prices of rum, sugar, flour, coffee and tea, have greatly arisen within this week past, without any real or apparent cause; and as it is our determination not to be eaten up by monopolizers and forestallers: Therefore,

Resolved, That we do unconditionally insist and demand that the advanced, or monopolized, price of the present month be instantly taken off, and that the prices of those articles be immediately reduced to what they were the first day of May instant.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to ascertain the retail prices of rum, sugar, flour, coffee and tea, as they stood on the first day of May instant, and to publish the same for the government of buyer and seller, and to receive in writing any complaints against such dealers as may refuse to comply with, or shall obstruct the execution of this necessary regulation, and to report the same at the next general Town Meeting.

Resolved, That the said Committee, when chosen, do ascertain what the prices of the above, or any other articles, were on the first day of January last, and likewise on the first day of every month from that time to the present instant.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a plan for regularly proceeding in this business, and for carrying it into execution throughout the United States, and to report the same at a general Town Meeting to be held for that purpose.

Resolved, That we will support the Committees in the execution of their duty, encourage fair and honest commerce, and suppress to the utmost of our power, and at the hazard of our lives, engrossing, monopolizing, and forestalling, and depreciation.

Resolved, That as it is the interest both of town and country to concur in measures for the mutual relief of both, that the proceedings of this Meeti. g be printed and sent to the several counties for their consideration and assistance therein.

And whereas complaints of a very extraordinary natnre have, at different times, appeared against persons entrusted, or who have been entrusted by Congress with the disposal of public money, and the execution of public commissions, to which complaints, in some instances, no answers have been given, or any denial made:

And whereas the public, by delegating their powers, have a right to call on their Representatives to whom that delegation is made, to know in what manner the trust so reposed in them is executed. Therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to collect together the charges or complaints which have been made against persons entrusted by Congress, with the expenditure of public money, or the execution of public commissions and to require of the Delegates of this State, what proceedings Congress have made therein, towards ascertaining the truth of such charges or complaints, or punishing the persons if guilty, and to transmit the same to the several counties, in order that they may be enabled to give instructions to their Representatives in Assembly at their next meeting, or for such other purposes as may be necessary in the interim.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Meeting that no person, who by sufficient testimony can be proved inimical to the interest and independence of the United States, be suffered to remain among us, and that the Committees be directed to take measures for carrying this resolution into execution.

The following Gentlemen were appointed on the Committee to enquire respecting the cargo lately arrived, and said to be purchased by or consigned to the management of Mr. Robert Morris, or others.

Timothy Matlack, David Rittenhouse, Capt. Blewer, Thomas Paine, Charles W. Peale, Col. J. B. Smith.

And the following Gentlemen, together with the former, were appointed a Committee for carrying the other resolves into execution.

Col. Henry, Col. Bradford, George Schlosser, Col. Will, Col. Jehu Eyre, Capt. Heytham, Major Boyd, Philip Bœhm, Jedediah Snowden, Nathaniel Donnell, Capt. Robert Smith, Capt. Lang, Dr. Hutchinson, William Brown, Paul Cox, Edward Pole, Thomas Casdrop, Capt. George Ord, James Skinner, John Kling, William Thorn, William Coats, Tanner, Joseph Dean, Capt. John Young, Cadwallader Dickinson, Capt. Thomas Moore.

Signed, by order of the Meeting,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU, Chairman.

The thanks of the Meeting were unanimously returned to the Chairman for his noble and disinterested manner of conducting the business.

COMMITTEE-ROOM, *May 26th*, 1779.

AGREEABLE to a resolution of the General Town Meeting held in the State-house yard the 25th inst.

The Committee for ascertaining the prices of rum, sugar, flour, coffee and tea, as they stood on the first day of the present month, do hereby publish the following:

West-India Rum,	per gallon,	£ 6	15	0
Country Rum,	per do.	5	0	0
Tea by the Chest,	per lb.	4	10	0
Brandy by the Keg,	per gallon,	7	0	0
Molasses by the Hogshead	per do.	4	12	6
Coffee,	per lb.	0	17	0
Loaf Sugar, wholesale,	per lb.	2	12	6
Muscovado, from £105 to £130	per hundred.			
Turk's Island Salt,	10	per bushel.		
Common French Salt,	6 10	per do.		
Merchantable Flour,	per hundred,	£ 20	0	0
Middling do.		15	0	0
Ship-stuff,		13	0	0
Shorts,	per bushel,	4	10	0
Bran,	per do.	3	15	0

To our Fellow-Citizens in Town and Country.

Convinced as we all are of the absolute necessity of lowering the prices in order to raise the value of the currency, and seriously anxious of carrying the resolutions of the Meeting into effectual execution, we do earnestly recommend, in the first instance, a chearful compliance with the above Resolves, and likewise, that as few purchases as possible be made for the present, either of *dry goods, or any other kind of imported goods*, otherwise it will embarrass the object hoped to be obtained.

It is only by degrees that evils of this kind can be remedied, and no plan appears more rational than to lower the prices in the same proportions they have been advanced. As soon as the business for the next General Town Meeting can be prepared, notice will be given of it in the papers.

By Order of the Committee,

WILLIAM HENRY, Chairman.

N. B. The Committee have the pleasure of informing the public, that molasses and salt are cheaper this day than they were on the first of May.—The prices, as printed above, have been taken from the Merchants and Traders books.

JOHN BENEZET

HAS FOR SALE, clayed SUGARS in hogsheads and barrels; a few pipes of very excellent MADEIRA. Also a quantity of GLASS PHIALS, of different sizes, in hogsheads. He continues to purchase LOAN-OFFICE CERTIFICATES bearing interest payable in France, also BILLS for interest due on such Certificates, for which he gives the very highest advance. ¶

JAMES SLATER, BROKER,

IS REMOVED from Spruce-street to Water-street, between Walnut and Chesnut-streets, opposite the Sign of the Tun, where he continues, as usual, to buy and sell all Sorts of Mens and Womens Wearing Apparel, Houshold and Kitchen Furniture, Dry Goods, &c. ‖ 4 W.

Thornbury, Chester County, May 18, 1779.

WHEREAS CATHERINE my wife hath eloped from my bed and board without any just cause, on the 18th day of February last, with a Hessian deserter, who goes by the name of *Valentine Hertzoor*; therefore this is to forewarn all persons from trusting her on my account, as I am determined to pay no debts of her contracting. PAUL RUSSEL. ¶

Montgomery, May 19, 1779.

NOTICE is hereby given that all those that are indebted to Christopher Sower, printer, late of Germantown, Philadelphia county, either by bill, bond, note, or book debt, are desired to make speedy payment to the subscriber, in Montgomery township, Philadelphia county. As he wants to settle off the confiscated accounts as quick as possible, it is desired that all people concerned will take notice; and those that have not paid off the vendue accounts of the sale of Sower's effects, are likewise desired to make speedy payment, to

GEORGE SMITH, agent for confiscated estates, Philadelphia county.

Kent County, Maryland, May 20, 1779.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

WAS TAKEN, supposed through mistake, by a river craft, from Hollingsworth's wharf, about five or six weeks ago, a barrel directed for Joseph Wilkinson, tanner, at the Head of Chester, with red keel on the head, containing 25 dressed calf skins, one bushel of salt in a bag, and 25 ½ lbs. sugar in a keg; also, seven empty flour barrels marked M I on the head with chalk. Whoever hath taken the above goods, or can give information of the same, so that the owner may get them again, shall receive the above reward, paid by LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH, in Philadelphia, or the subscriber at the Head of Chester. ‖ JOSEPH WILKINSON.

STYNER AND CIST

HAVE removed their Printing-Office to the House of Mr. Frederick Kuhl, on the East Side of Second-street, four Doors above Race-street: Where they have for Sale, English and German School-Books, such as Testaments, Psalters, Spelling Books, New-England and American Primers: likewise Writing-Paper, Ink-Powder, Quills, Sealing-Wax, Wafers, Slate-Pencils, &c. &c. *N. B.* They give the highest Price for clean LINEN RAGS.

May 22, 1779.

STOLEN, last night, out of the stable at General Mifflin's plantation, near the Falls of Schuylkill, a black HORSE, with a small star in his forehead, a little hip-shot, the hair rubbed off the bone, on the off side, about the size of a penny, and a switch tail; he is middling lengthy bodied, has a swing trot, is about 14 hands and an inch high, and is six years old this spring. Whoever takes up and secures said horse and thief, so that the thief be convicted, shall have TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS reward, or ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for the horse, paid by Captain *RIVERS*, living in Front-street, between Race and Vine-streets, Philadelphia. †

WHEREAS *THOMAS BEANS*, of Abington, and *JOHN SOMMERS*, of the Manor of Moreland, in the county of Philadelphia, upon their humble petitions preferred to the General Assembly of this state, have severally obtained leave to bring in a bill "to establish and confirm "their respective estates, in several lands and tenements in "this state, the title deeds for the same being much defaced by "accident," and at the same time were ordered to give public notice in some of the English and German newspapers of their said application to the Assembly, &c. NOW, in compliance with the said order, it is hereby published, that the lands of the said *Thomas Beans* are situate and bounded as followeth, viz. 145 acres in Abington aforesaid, by him purchased of Henry Shisler and wife, bounded by land of Richard Whitton, the Township Line or Road between Abington and Lower Dublin, lands of William Roberts, Thomas King and Moses Vancourt, and by Pennypack creek; 112½ acres in Southampton township, in the county of Bucks, purchased of Elizabeth Fletcher, bounded by lands of the Baptist Meeting-house, of Daniel Hoogland and Wilhelmus Cornell, by the Street Road, and lands of Stephen Watts and Charles Garrison; and 200 acres and 52 perches of land in Warminster township, Bucks county, purchased of Thomas Dungan and wife, bounded by the middle of the said street road, opposite to the lands of Thomas Craven, John Brocks and Giles Craven, by another road opposite to lands of Daniel Longstreth, and by lands of Joseph Hart, Jonathan Walton and Thomas Dungan. AND that the lands of the said *John Sommers* are situate in the said Manor of Moreland, and bounded as followeth, 92 acres joining Samuel Swift, William Walton, Jonathan Wilson, a road to Newtown, and Henry Walton's land. About seven acres at a place called Smithfield, adjoining the said Newtown road and lands of John Briton and Isaac Comely. One acre and 22 perches, joining the road to the Crooked Billet, by the said Newtown road, and the said John Briton. Eighty-two perches of land, adjoining the said Henry Walton and John Dudley. ¶ 6 W.

Greenwich, May 21, 1779.

WHEREAS sundry wearing apparel, in a portmanteau, was found in Roxbury township, Morris county, New-Jersey, in April last, supposed to be stolen and concealed in the woods by a certain John Harris, a deserter from the first Jersey regiment, containing the following articles, viz. a scarlet coat, with silver buttons marked No. 7; one buff and two half silk streaked jackets; one pair of linen breeches and two pair of silk stockings. Whoever has lost the above described apparel, on proving his property and paying charges within three months from the above date, may have them again, by applying to the subscriber in Greenwich, Sussex county and State aforesaid, otherwise they will be sold at public vendue, to defray the charges.

§ 6 W. MATTHIAS SHIPMAN.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living in Horsham township, Philadelphia county, some time in April, 1779, a bright bay MARE, four years old, 14 hands high, a blaze in her face, a natural trotter. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

¶ JOSEPH WILLIAMS.

CAME to the plantation of SARAH KNIGHT, near the twelve mile stone, on the old York road, in Abington township, Philadelphia county, the tenth instant (May) a brown HORSE, about fourteen hands high. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. ¶

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away, last night, from the subscriber, living in East-Nottingham township, Cæcil county, near the Brick Meeting-house, a servant lad, country born, named William Drisdall, about 18 years of age, of a darkish complexion, about five feet high; had on, when he went away, a striped linsey jacket, with sleeves, a flax and tow shirt, tow trowsers, an old hat, no shoes. Whoever secures said servant, so that his master may have him again, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

May 11, 1779. JAMES GALLT. ¶

Kishacoquilles, Big Valley, Armagh Township, Cumberland County, March 13, 1779.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of JAMES ALEXANDER, deceased, either by bond, note or book-debt, are desired to come and pay off their respective debts, on or before the first day of July next, otherwise their accounts will be put into an attorney's hands; and all those who have any demands against said estate, are desired to bring in their accounts, properly proved, and they will be paid by JAMES REED, and JOHN FLEMING, Executors. ¶

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by HALL and SELLERS, at the NEW-PRINTING-OFFICE, near the MARKET.